CRIMES ARE CRIMES NO MATTER WHO DOES THEM

1 It is now common knowledge that Barack Obama has openly ordered the assassination of an American citizen. Anwar al-Awlaki, Al-Awlaki is suspected of participating in plots by Al Qaeda. He denies these charges. No matter. Without trial or other judicial proceeding, the administration has simply put him on the to-be-killed list.

2 Whistleblowers in the military have now leaked a video showing U.S. troops firing on an unarmed party of Iraqis in 2007, including two journalists, and then firing on those who attempted to rescue them, including two children. As ugly as this video of the killing and then firing on those who attempted to rescue them, out of the women’s bodies to destroy evidence (a lawyer) and the women, and then Special Forces killed the men (a police officer and a lawyer) and the women, and then the two men killed were insurgents and the women were victim s of a family “honor killing,” but the Afghan government accepts the eyewitness reports that U.S. Special Forces killed the men (a police officer and a lawyer) and the women, and then dug their own bullets out of the women’s bodies to destroy evidence. Top U.S. military officials have now admitted that U.S. soldiers killed the family in their house.

3 The Pentagon has recently acknowledged, after denials, a massacre near the city of Gardez, Afghanistan, on February 12, 2010. Five people were killed, including two pregnant women, leaving 16 children motherless. The U.S. military first said the two men killed were insurgents and the women were victims of a family “honor killing,” but the Afghan government accepts the eyewitness reports that U.S. Special Forces killed the men (a police officer and a lawyer) and the women, and then dug their own bullets out of the women’s bodies to destroy evidence. Top U.S. military officials have now admitted that U.S. soldiers killed the family in their house.

4 Just weeks earlier, a story broken in Harper’s by Scott Horton carried news that three supposed suicides of detainees in Guantánamo in 2006 were not suicides, but homicides carried out by American personnel. This passed almost without comment.

IN SOME RESPECTS this is worse than Bush. First, because Obama has claimed the right to assassinate American citizens whom he suspects of “terrorism,” merely on the grounds of his own suspicion or that of the CIA, something Bush never claimed publicly. Second, Obama says that the government can detain you indefinitely, even if you have been exonerated in a trial, and he has publicly floated the idea of “preventive detention.” Third, the Obama administration, in expanding the use of unmanned drone attacks, argues that the U.S. has the authority under international law to use extrajudicial killing in sovereign countries with which it is not at war.

CRIMES UNDER BUSH ARE CRIMES UNDER OBAMA AND MUST BE RESISTED BY ANYONE WHO CLAIMS A SHRED OF CONSCIENCE

JUSTICE IS NOT THE SAME AS LAW. IT IS NOT THE SAME AS ORDERING THE DAILY LOT OF SAKE. IT IS NOT THE SAME AS CONSENT OR CONSENTED TO BY THE GRANDFATHERS. IT IS THE ALCOHOL OF YOUTH.

END THE COMPLICITY OF SILENCE.
SIGN THIS STATEMENT AND DONATE AT WORLDCANTWAIT.ORG

Mail to: WORLD CAN’T WAIT
305 West Broadway #185 • New York, NY 10013
Donate generously to publish this statement nationwide
☐ $5000 ☐ $2500 ☐ $1000 ☐ $500 ☐ $200 ☐ Other $
To make a tax-deductible donation in support of World Can’t Wait’s educational activities, make your check to “The Alliance for Global Justice,” a 501(3)(c) organization, and designate “World Can’t Wait” on the check memo line.
Or make a secure, tax-deductible donation online at WorldCan’tWait.org

This message is signed by:
Rocky Anderson • Edward Asner • William Ayers
William Blum • Fr. Bob Bossie • Elaine Brower
Matthias Chiouix • Noam Chomsky
James Cromwell • Carl Dix • Daniel Ellsberg
Jodie Evans • Hester Eisenstein • Donald Freed
Ann Fagan Ginger • Mike Gravel • Stephen Hays
Chris Hedges • Dahr Jamail • Kathy Kelly
Usma Khan • Joyce Kosloff • Emily Kunstler
Sarah Kunstler • Dennis Loo • Peter McLaren
Ray McGovern • Ann Messner • Tom Morello
Tomás Olmos • Bill Quigley • Michael Ratner Rev.
Dr. George F. Regas • Mark Ruffalo
Cindy Sheehan • Jed Stone • Frank Summers
David Swanson • Debra Sweet • Sunsara Taylor
Cornel West • Andy Worthington • Ann Wright